

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): An image output method adopted in an image output device that is equipped with an output processing module, said output processing module having multi-stage processing units with a preset processing sequence and activating at least a last-stage processing unit among the multi-stage processing units to set image data to output data and to implement output of an image, the multi-stage processing units including: a color conversion processing unit which carries out a series of processing including a conversion process of converting RGB color system of image data into a CMY color system and outputs resulting processed image data toward an image buffer adjacent to the last-stage processing unit; and an XHTML analyzer processing unit which carries out a series of processing including an analysis process of analyzing a description file described in a predetermined markup language or a predetermined script language and outputs resulting processed image data toward the color conversion processing unit.

said image output method comprising the steps of:

- (a) receiving image data;
- (b) identifying type of the received image data; and
- (c) assigning a specific-stage processing unit adequate for the identified type of the received image data, among the multi-stage processing units, when the type of the received image data is the description file, assigning the XHTML analyzer processing unit to process the

received image data, and when the type of the received image data is in a CMY color system,
assigning the color conversion processing unit to process the received image data.

2. (canceled).

3. (canceled).

4. (currently amended): An image output method in accordance with ~~claim 2~~claim 1,
wherein the color conversion processing unit is actualized by an exclusive hardware structure.

5. (currently amended): An image output method in accordance with ~~claim 2~~claim 1,
wherein said output processing module comprises an extension processing unit that makes
compressed image data in a predetermined format subjected to a preset series of extension
processing and outputs resulting extended image data to the color conversion processing unit,
and

when the type of the received image data identified in said step (b) shows that the
received image data is compressed image data in the predetermined format, said step (c) assigns
the extension processing unit to process the received image data.

6. - 8. (canceled).

9. (currently amended): An image output method in accordance with ~~claim 6~~claim 1, wherein said image output device is constructed to be connectable via a specific communication interface with a broadcasting receiver device that receives broadcast data sent from a broadcast station, and

said step (a) receives input of the description file, which is created based on the broadcast data received by said broadcasting receiver device, via the communication interface.

10. (original): An image output method in accordance with claim 1, wherein said output processing module comprises, as the last-stage processing unit, an image output execution unit that executes output of an image based on the output data, and

when the type of the received image data identified in said step (b) shows that the image data is the output data, said step (c) assigns the image output execution unit to process the image data.

11. (original): An image output method in accordance with claim 1, wherein said image output device is constructed to be connectable via a specific communication interface with multiple different image input devices that input image data, and

said step (a) receives image data from each of the multiple different image input devices via the communication interface.

12. (original): An image output method in accordance with claim 11, wherein said step (b) acquires type data representing the type of the received image data, in response to reception of the image data from one of said multiple different image input devices via the communication interface, and identifies the type of the received image data based on the acquired type data.

13. (original): An image output method in accordance with claim 1, wherein said image output device is a printing device

14. (original): An image output method in accordance with claim 13, wherein the printing device is an inkjet printer.

15. (currently amended): An image output device that outputs an image, said image output device comprising:

an output processing module that has multi-stage processing units with a preset processing sequence and activates at least a last-stage processing unit among the multi-stage processing units to set image data to output data in an allowable form by said image output device and to implement output of an image, wherein the multi-stage processing units include a color conversion processing unit which carries out a series of processing including a conversion process of converting a RGB color system of image data into a CMY color system and outputs resulting processed image data toward an image buffer adjacent to the last-stage processing unit; and an XHTML analyzer processing unit which carries out a series of processing including an

analysis process of analyzing a description file described in a predetermined markup language or a predetermined script language and outputs resulting processed image data toward the color conversion processing unit;

an image data receiving module that receives image data;

an image data type identification module that identifies a type of the received image data;

and

a processing assignment module that assigns the XHTML analyzer processing unit to process the received image data when the type of the received image data is the description file, and assigns the color conversion processing unit to process the received image data when the type of the received image data is data in the CMY color system~~a specific stage processing unit adequate for the identified type of the received image data, among the multi-stage processing units, to process the received image data.~~

16. (original): A storage medium storing therein a program, which causes a computer to function as an image output device in accordance with claim 15.